

decide whether some law schools might curb military recruiters' access to their students. The issue in question is the Solomon amendment, a Federal law that requires universities to give military recruiters equal access or risk losing millions of dollars in Federal funding. These universities allow IBM, GE and other corporations access, but not the military. I commend the Supreme Court for taking up this case and urge them to reverse a lower court injunction against enforcement of the Solomon amendment.

The Solomon amendment is necessary to protect the military against the antimilitary sentiment of some universities and colleges. Yet many of these universities receive millions and millions of hardworking American tax dollars in Federal funds. These universities will take taxpayers' money, but then will discriminate against the very people who put their lives on the line to protect our freedoms. This is not right. I urge support for the Solomon amendment.

NOTING CONTRIBUTIONS OF IMMIGRANTS ON OCCASION OF CINCO DE MAYO

(Mr. CUELLAR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the strength of the contributions of our immigrants. We find our immigrants, our sons and daughters, in government; we find them in the arts; we find them in medicine, in our educational system. And the strength that they provide our country has been outstanding. My mother and my father went only to a third and sixth grade education. They worked hard. They taught us how to work hard, and they taught us the power of education.

This is why it is important that we recognize the strength and the diversity that our country is based on the immigrants, especially now that we rise and we see the Cinco de Mayo, especially my district, which is about 68 percent Hispanics. We should thank their contributions and recognize that contribution.

SENATE FILIBUSTER

(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I rise to denounce the grave injustice occurring a few hundred yards from here in the United States Senate. As any student of American Government knows, it is the job of the President to nominate fellow Americans to serve as Federal judges, and it is the job of the Senate to either approve or reject those nominations. It is a simple system that guarantees proper checks and balances in the manner our forefathers envisioned.

Over the past 2 years, though, Senate Democrats have exploited parliamen-

tary loopholes to prevent the Senate from voting up or down on many of President Bush's highly qualified nominees. They are hiding behind the Senate filibuster to block judicial nominees who have the support of the majority of the Senate, something that has never been done in American history.

Democrats in the Senate are not asking for time to debate these nominees. They are not going to the American people and explaining why they oppose them. They are not even using their talents of persuasion to urge their Republican colleagues to vote "no." No, they are just refusing to vote. And that is just wrong.

I stand for this simple proposition, that every judicial nominee of the President deserves a fair yes-or-no vote. If Democrats do not like the President's nominees, they can vote "no," but to avoid voting altogether is a dangerous disservice.

SECOND CHANCE REENTRY ACT

(Mr. DAVIS of Illinois asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I understand that Representative Rob Portman's last day was Friday of last week. President Bush appointed him to be the U.S. Trade Representative, and Rob has gone off to pursue those duties. I want to wish him well.

Rob and I worked closely together, and we introduced something called the Second Chance Reentry Act, to assist inmates coming home from prison to rehabilitate and redeploy and redevelop and reestablish their lives. I have never enjoyed working more with a Member who was dedicated to what he was attempting to do, totally committed, willing to compromise; and we have a bill that we think will go a long way toward assisting these individuals.

And so I trust that in memory of the great work that Rob Portman did, all of us will support the Second Chance Reentry Act and continue the work that Rob was so proud of. Rob, we thank you.

IRAQI CABINET

(Mr. CHOCOLA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CHOCOLA. Mr. Speaker, a few short months ago, millions of Iraqis risked their lives by simply casting a vote. This week, the bravery demonstrated on that historic January day came to fruition as the country's first freely elected government in over half a century was sworn in. The new cabinet is representative of the various ethnic and religious groups in Iraq and will be charged with the important task of writing a permanent Iraqi constitution. This milestone is yet another victory for the Iraqi people and

delivers a further blow to the terrorists and advances the cause of freedom worldwide.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to reiterate our continued admiration and support of the Iraqi people, and I commend them for the courage and tenacity they continue to demonstrate as they embrace freedom and democracy.

109TH REPUBLICANS DELIVER ACCOMPLISHMENTS FOR AMERICA

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, America's economic future is bright. Since May 2003, more than 3 million American jobs have been created, and we have had 22 straight months of job growth. In the last month alone, more than 110,000 Americans have found jobs.

In the past 100 days, House Republicans have delivered a long list of accomplishments that are spurring economic growth and making a positive difference for millions of American families. The 109th Congress has passed legislation that will permanently repeal the death tax, decrease the deficit, strengthen America's borders, prevent frivolous lawsuits, improve our highways, and provide our country with a comprehensive energy plan. Because of our continued efforts, the unemployment rate is now at the lowest level since September 2001.

Each of these accomplishments will ensure that our economy continues to improve. However, we will not be satisfied until every American who wants a job can find a job. Although Democrats continue to try to obstruct our positive agenda, House Republicans will remain dedicated to helping American workers take care of their families.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, God bless Grace Christian School, and we will never forget September 11.

JUDICIAL NOMINEES

(Mr. CHABOT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, as an elected official from the First District of Ohio, I took an oath to uphold the Constitution. In taking the oath, I have an obligation to ensure that the Constitution and the intent of the Founding Fathers is protected. The American people deserve to know that the Constitution, the intent of the Founders, and 214 years of tradition are being jeopardized by use, or the threatened use, of the filibuster on judicial nominations. Never before has a judicial nominee with clear majority support been denied an up-or-down vote. The filibuster is not part of the Constitution, nor is it even part of the original Senate rules. However, the use of the filibuster on judicial nominations threatens the very principles on